

REMARKS

The Examiner's Advisory Action of September 21, 2005 has been received and its contents reviewed. Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the consideration given to the above-identified application.

Claims 1-18 are pending for consideration, of which claims 1, 4, 7, 10, 13 and 16 are independent. By the above actions, claims 1, 4, 7, 10, 13 and 16 have been amended and claims 19-33 have been cancelled. In view of these actions and the following remarks, reconsideration of this application is now requested.

As required by the Examiner in the Advisory Action, Applicants have cancelled claims 19-33 in order to overcome the noted rejections. In addition, Applicants have amended claims 1, 4, 7, 10, 13 and 16, as shown above, to further recite "a dryer agent between said pair of substrates". Support for this amended feature can be found at least in, e.g., Embodiment 1 in the specification. Applicants respectfully assert that the cited prior art references to Hinata et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,610,742) and Eida et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,869,929) do not teach, disclose or suggest at least the amended feature in combination with the other claimed features.

The requirements for establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness, as detailed in MPEP § 2143 - 2143.03 (pages 2100-122 - 2100-136), are: first, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference to combine the teachings; second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success; and, finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all of the claim limitations. As Hinata et al. and Eida et al. are deficient, as noted above, the §103(a) rejection is improper.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all the pending rejections.

While the present application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, should the Examiner find some issue to remain unresolved, or should any new issues arise, which could be eliminated through discussions with Applicants' representative, then the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone in order that the further prosecution of this application can thereby be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,



Luan C. Do
Registration No. 38,434

NIXON PEABODY LLP
Suite 900
401 9th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004-2128
Telephone: (202) 585-8000
Fax: (202) 585-8080